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WORK ASSIGNMENT PERFORMANCE WORK STATEMENT

Contract No: EP-C-10-060

Work Assignment: 0-13

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LOE: 16855

Period of Performance: December 1, 2010- July 31, 2011

Title: Water Laboratory Alliance

PWS Sections:

3.1.18

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this work assignment is to implement the Water Laboratory Alliance (WLA), leading towards the sustainability of an alliance of laboratories to support drinking water response across a spectrum of activities including preparedness, response, remediation, and recovery. To achieve this purpose, the contractor shall provide technical, analytical, and training support services in support of the WLA.

The Water Laboratory is a alliance of federal, state, commercial, and drinking water utility laboratories that will support the expansion of the Water Security Initiative to additional pilots and subsequently, to the water sector for voluntary national adoption. EPA is forming the WLA in coordination with the Laboratory Response Network (LRN), coordinating with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in order to leverage the CDC's Laboratory Response Network (LRN) infrastructure. The LRN is a system of State public health departments capable of responding quickly to an emergency event. EPA will continue to work with U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and Food and Drug Administration (FDA) representatives from the Food Emergency Response Network (FERN), where appropriate, to leverage infrastructure from additional existing laboratory networks to fill remaining gaps. Additionally, EPA will continue working with a broad sector of stakeholders including State health laboratories, State drinking water and/or environmental laboratories, drinking water utility representatives, commercial laboratories, and other Federal agencies, as appropriate, to discuss the proposed approach for the Water Laboratory Alliance and identify potential enhancements. The WLA is the water component of EPA's Environmental Response Laboratory Network (ERLN) being lead by the Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response (OSWER).

Under this work assignment, the Contractor shall provide technical support to EPA's development and implementation of the WLA. Contractor support will be required in the following areas:

- WLA Programmatic Support
- WLA Operation and Policy Documents
- WLA Security Summit
- WLA Laboratory Response Plan and Exercises
- Training for State Laboratories and Water Utilities
- Biological Method Standardization
- Chemical Method Standardization (Single and Multi Laboratory Validation Studies)
- Data Exchange and Management

This work assignment supports the mission of the Water Security Division (WSD) as described in the Water Security Strategy framework, which relates resources, activities, outputs, audience, short- and long-term outcomes to the WSD pillars of Prevention, Detection, Response, and Recovery. Additionally, this work assignment contributes to the commitments made in EPA's *Strategic Plan: 2006 to 2011* and EPA's *Homeland Security Strategy (2004)*. Under EPA's *Strategic Plan*, reference is made to Goal 2 (Clean and Safe Water), Objective 2.1 (Protecting Human Health), Sub-objective 2.1.1 (Water Safe to Drink), and to the Cross-Goal on homeland security. Under EPA's *Homeland Security Strategy*, reference is made to Objective 1 (Critical Infrastructure Protection). In pursuit of these efforts, the

contractor may be tasked with preparing a correlation summary comparing the results under this work assignment to the components of the Water Security Strategy framework.

II. BACKGROUND:

This work is in response to Homeland Security Presidential Directive 9 (HSPD 9), which directed EPA to "build upon and expand current monitoring and surveillance programs to:

- 1. Develop robust, comprehensive, and fully coordinated surveillance and monitoring systems...for...water quality that provide early detection and awareness of disease, pest or poisonous agents.
- 2. Develop nationwide laboratory networks for...water quality that integrate Federal and state laboratory resources, are interconnected, and utilize standardized diagnostic protocols and procedures."

In response to the first task under HSPD 9, EPA proposed and initiated development of a Contaminant Warning System designated as the Water Security Initiative. To address the second major task under HSPD-9 EPA has established the Water Laboratory Alliance. The Water Laboratory Alliance is supported by the WLA-Response Plan which provides both the environmental laboratory and water sector with a national plan for analyzing a surge of drinking water and wastewater samples.

III. QA REQUIREMENTS:

Secondary Data: The tasks in this work assignment require the use of primary and/or secondary data. Consistent with the Agency's quality assurance (QA) requirements, the contractor must prepare a complete Project Specific Quality Assurance Project Plan (PQAPP) to assure the quality of the secondary data used under this work assignment. Work on these tasks cannot proceed until the contractor receives notification of PQAPP approval from the PO via e-mail. The project specific quality assurance requirements must be addressed in the work plan and monthly progress reports as specified under Task 0, below.

IV. DETAILED TASK DESCRIPTION:

All directions under this work assignment will be provided as written technical direction from the Task Manager (TM) or Work Assignment Manager (WAM), as appropriate. If provided first as verbal technical direction to the contractor, it will be confirmed in writing within 5 calendar days, with a copy to the Project Officer and the Contracting Officer, and is subject to the limitations of Contract Clause H.21. Each initial deliverable shall be provided to the EPA WAM and EPA Project Officer (PO) in draft form for review and comment. The contractor shall incorporate WAM/Task Manager review comments into revisions of the drafts. All drafts and final reports shall be approved by the WAM.

The contractor shall perform the following tasks:

Task 0: Work Plan, Progress Evaluations, and Monthly Progress Reports

The contractor shall develop a work plan that describes how each task will be carried out. The work plan shall include a schedule, staffing plan, level of effort (LOE), and cost estimate for each task, the contractor's key assumptions on which staffing plan and budget are based, and qualifications of proposed staff. If a subcontractor(s) is proposed and subcontractors are outside the metropolitan DC area, the contractor shall include information on plans to manage work and

contract costs. The work plan shall also provide an analysis of the existing and projected constraints, and the feasibility of accomplishing the project's purpose.

In addition, the contractor shall prepare a project specific quality assurance plan (PQAPP) (noted above), and ensure the quality of secondary data used to complete these tasks. The work plan shall explain when the PQAPP will be submitted based on the specific data requirements of the WA. This task also includes monthly progress and financial reports. The monthly progress report shall indicate, in a separate QA section, whether significant QA issues have been identified and how they are being resolved. Monthly financial reports must include a table with the invoice LOE and costs` broken out by the tasks in this WA.

In addition, in each monthly progress report, the contractor shall, at the introduction to the discussion of this work assignment, discuss actual progress toward achieving the purpose of this work assignment, including problems encountered, issues that may need to be resolved, and anticipated timing for completing the goals of the work assignment. The contractor shall provide an overview of contract projects, striving to implement efficiencies in performance when complimentary requirements are issued. The contractor shall assure that duplication of effort relative to other ongoing work assignments under this contract is not occurring.

<u>Deliverables</u>: Work plan, PQAPP and monthly progress and financial reports.

Task 1: Water Laboratory Alliance Programmatic Support

The objective of this task is to provide scientific, analytical, training and technical support to facilitate and enhance the programmatic aspects of the WLA. The contractor shall also be tasked to support collaborations with other federal agencies, water utilities, laboratories and EPA regional personnel as needed to further the mission of the Water Laboratory Alliance Program. Specific activities under this task will be assigned through written technical direction in response to WLA program needs, and shall be within the general scope of this work assignment. Specific items include:

- A. Providing biological, chemical and Information Technology technical expertise.
- B. Generation of Memorandums of Agreement and/or Memorandums of Understanding.
- C. Development of a communication plan and listserv for targeted outreach to the Emergency Responder and Water sector.
- D. Providing support for technical conferences and meetings. Examples include the composition of abstracts (estimated t 15), presentations (estimated, t 25), scientific papers (estimated 7) and speeches (estimated 3).
- E. Development, procurement and distribution (up to 500) of WLA fact sheets (estimated 7), brochures (estimated 6) and other communication documents.
- F. Revising the WLA web-page at least 4 times per year. Revisions are defined as inserting and removing links and reformatting the information when necessary.
- G. Providing general support to facilitate coordination between WLA, ERLN, FERN and LRN.
- H. Target and recruit laboratory participation in the WLA to ensure adequate capacity for all analytes on the WSD priority contaminant list.

Task 2: WLA Operational and Policy Documents

The Water Laboratory Alliance Program will work with existing programs such as ERLN and the LRN. In doing so, it is imperative that operational documents are available to regulate the active operation of the Water Laboratory Alliance program within and outside of its partners. Following TD the contractor shall develop a series of technical documents covering or encompassing the topics below.

- A. General guidelines for participating within the WLA
- B. Operational procedures for accessing the WLA within the ERLN
- C. Management tools and/or documents that will be used to track communications and to record interactions with laboratories and utilities that join the WLA (using the Water Laboratory Compendium).

In addition the contractor shall provide support necessary for the WLA State Liaisons (at least 6 webcast and 6 e-newsletters).

Task 3: WLA Summit

The objective of this task is to host the 2011 Water Laboratory Alliance Security Summit. The summit is intended to provide potential WLA members an overview of the program and solicit their membership. Specific activities needed to host the Summit include:

- A. Develop a Strategic Communication Plan for the WLA Launch to guide the promotion and advertisement of WLA, thereby stimulating WLA membership.
- B. Develop and distribute communication materials necessary to promote the 2011 Summit.
- C. Organize and manage the creation and execution of the 2011 WLA Security Summit:
 - a. Finalize contract with hotel
 - b.Coordinate hotel activities
 - c. Identify keynote and session speakers
 - d.Develop WLA liaison positions; recruit liaisons; and set-up travel arrangements
 - e. Develop table top exercise session
 - f. Develop and facilitate Registration Tool and Materials
 - g. Develop and Distribute Summit communications
 - h. Provide meeting facilitation, develop evaluation tools, take minutes and distribute follow up materials.

Task 4: WLA Response Plan

The objective of this task is to assist the EPA Regions with improving inter-regional laboratory preparedness for drinking and wastewater contamination events. The final outcome is testing of the WLA Response Plan and clinical aspects of the LRN within the ten EPA Regions. Specific activities required to meet this objective include:

A. Work with HQ EPA, Regions 9 and 10, and their respective States, and major utility Laboratory Managers to conduct an inter-regional full scale exercise using the WLA Response Plan. To assist the regions with conducting the full scale exercise, the contractor shall coordinate all elements of outreach and communication with the regions and provide technical support necessary to help each region in conducting the full scale exercise including the following: schedule, scale of the exercise, the number of response plan elements to be tested, the types of contaminants, sample constituents, number of samples, the origination of the samples, data reporting and compilation, time and pressure factors, role of non-laboratory participants, level of communication between the participating laboratories, communication between laboratories and other Emergency Response personnel, aggravating factors, and non-analytical laboratory support. The contractor shall develop proceedings and meeting summaries, and provide logistical support and materials (not to exceed \$75,000 for each region) for contractor selected states and major

utility laboratories for the full scale exercise. The contractor shall assist the EPA Regions in selecting states and major utilities for participation in the full scale exercise. The contractor shall coordinate the conference calls with the regions to organize and implement the full scale exercise. The contractor shall develop proceedings and meeting summaries from the conference calls and from each regional full scale exercise, including recommendations involving changes to the WLA Response Plan, roles, training needs, and other related issues.

- B. Develop, plan, and conduct an additional exercise with up to 5 EPA Regions based on the full scale exercises conducted in Regions 1 and 2, and Regions 9 and 10.
- C. Develop documents that summarize commonalties and lessons learned from the inter-regional full scale exercises.
- D. Revise the WLA Response Plan as necessary.
- E. Work with selected states (up to 10) to test electronic exchange of data generated during the exercise
- F. Identify opportunities and insert a laboratory component into exercises internal and external to FPA
- G. In collaboration with OEM, develop an ERLN Laboratory Plan that will enable labs to respond to environmental sample surges from all media.

Task 5: Training for State Laboratories and Water Utilities –

The objective of this task is to familiarize WLA member laboratories, WLA users, and Water Sector stakeholders, such as first responders and emergency managers with WLA response procedures, analytical methods, sample handling recommendations, data reporting, and supporting tools. The training program will ensure that WLA member laboratories and Water Sector stakeholders can take advantage of the benefits of the WLA, and operate effectively in the event of a water contamination incident involving a biological, chemical, or radiochemical contaminant. The contractor will assist with the development, instruction, maintenance and planning of WLA training courses. Course format will vary depending upon on the topic. Course topics fall into five categories:

- WLA Process
- Methods
- Data Reporting
- Sample Handling
- Supporting Tools

Selection and prioritization of trainings will be determined by the WLA team. Additional insight into the need for trainings and prioritization of topics will be gathered through discussions with the EPA Regions, WLA Liaisons, the Association of Public Health Laboratories' (APHL) Environmental Laboratory Subcommittee, WSD Partners, and WLA Security Summit attendees.

Providing incentives for participation in trainings is a central component to eliciting participation in the WLA Training Program. To ensure the opportunity to capture continuing education credits (CECs), the contractor will work closely with proposed credit-granting organizations, on both a

training program, and individual course level; or will obtain credit-granting ability from a proposed credit-granting organization.

Task 6. Biological Methods Standardization

Subtask 1. Ultrafiltration Quality Control Criteria Distribution

The EPA Water Laboratory Alliance (WLA) currently relies on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Laboratory Response Network (LRN) for concentration and analysis of select agents from large volumes (10–100 L) of drinking water using the *Laboratory Response Network (LRN) Filter Concentration of Bioterrorism Threat Agents in Potable Water Samples* (UF) Protocol. The UF protocol requires comprehensive training and practice to achieve and maintain proficiency. Quality Control (QC) criteria to demonstrate proficiency have recently been developed to provide an acceptable range of recoveries.

The contractor shall perform the following:

- 1. Provide technical support needed to assist with the distribution of the Ultra filtration Quality Control criteria to State laboratories and water utilities.
- 2. Develop the technical report for the endospore method used in the QC criteria development study.

Subtask 2. Non-select Agent Method Standardization

The contractor shall adapt existing CDC (culture) and FDA (molecular) methods for *E. coli* O157:H7 and non-Typhoidal Salmonella (and others as necessary) to standardize them using the Environmental Monitoring Methods Council (EMMC) format, which provides consistency across EPA microbiological methods, prior to the validation study. The contractor shall include the following elements in each of the two methods:

- Detailed, standardized procedures to reduce inter-analyst variability and convey the procedural nuances of the technique used in the research laboratory that developed the procedure
- Equipment specifications
- Standards and reagents specifications
- Instrument calibration requirements
- Draft holding time requirements
- Draft quality control (QC) requirements

2.1 Inter-laboratory Validation Study Design and Development of Study Plan

The contractor shall (1) characterize method precision and bias (for evaluation against the data quality objectives for the method), and (2) generate the data needed to develop quality control (QC) acceptance criteria so laboratory performance can be evaluated against realistic data quality expectations when the methods are implemented for use in the water sector. The contractor shall address each of the following factors during the study design process.

• Determination of appropriate spike materials and level(s)

- Determination of appropriate reference matrix materials
- Determination of what samples must be analyzed to collect data necessary to characterize recovery and precision of methods across multiple laboratories and drinking water matrices
- Determination of what samples must be analyzed to collect data necessary to characterize method sensitivity and specificity across multiple laboratories and drinking water matrices through the assessment of false positive and negative rates
- Determination of what samples must be analyzed to collect data necessary to develop QC acceptance criteria for initial and ongoing laboratory and method performance assessments
- Determination of what samples must be analyzed to collect data necessary to develop QC acceptance criteria for matrix spikes

After the study design has been finalized the contractor shall develop a study plan and sample spiking protocol that describes all parameters (e.g., matrices, spike types and levels, number of samples) and lays out how each study objective will be achieved, types of data generated, and how data will be statistically analyzed.

2.2 Study Coordination

The contractor shall provide technical assistance to the Work Assignment Manager and Task Manager during the overall methods standardization process. Activities anticipated are listed below.

Activities that must be completed prior to the validation study:

- Procurement of laboratory supplies
- Tracking of supplies shipped to participant laboratories
- Development of customized method-specific and study-specific data reporting forms to ensure complete and consistent reporting of all required primary data elements and analytical results by laboratories
- Coordination with U.S. Department of Transportation, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Centers for Disease Control, and shipping companies, such as Federal Express, to ensure that proper shipping protocols are followed to avoid delays and holding time issues with samples

Activities that are to be completed during the validation study:

- Review preliminary data to identify any issues
- Address any issues that were observed during preliminary analyses
- Development of detailed study instructions for validation study analyses
- Develop study updates based on preliminary results
- Track shipments to laboratories (e.g., referee-prepared spiking suspensions)
- Coordinate with referee laboratory to ensure spiking suspensions are shipped to participant laboratories according to the study schedule and to obtain enumerations results
- Provide ongoing daily technical support to referee and participant laboratories
- Provide logistical support to participating laboratories
- Trouble shoot problems that arise (e.g., positive control did not exhibit the appropriate response)

Activities that must be completed after the validation study:

- Data submission tracking
- Follow-up with laboratories to request additional information or clarify any notes or study results

2.3 Data Review, Data Analysis, and Development of Validation Study Report

Once the study has been completed and all data has been received, it must be reviewed and validated. The contractor shall perform the following:

- Data review and validation
 - Data package completeness review
 - Review of primary elements to verify calculation accuracy
 - Validation of primary data against method- and study-specific requirements
 - Contact laboratories to resolve any data issues (e.g., missing information, discuss QC results)
 - Double data entry of all results to ensure there are no transcription errors during data entry

Assessment of method performance

- Assessment of individual laboratory results to verify method ruggedness across multiple laboratories
- Data analysis in support of inter- and intra-laboratory method performance characterization in reference matrix and drinking water
- Assessment of method performance against data quality objectives
- Development of quality control (QC) criteria using spiked sample results
 - Criteria for reference matrix to demonstrate acceptable initial and ongoing laboratory performance
 - Criteria for matrix spikes to demonstrate acceptable method performance in the matrix analyzed

After data analyses have been completed, the contractor, following the outline provided the WAM, shall develop comprehensive method validation study reports. The study report should include all elements of the validation including any issues observed, resolutions, method modifications, summary level data, QC criteria, and conclusions based on the study.

2.4 Finalize Methods

After study completion all methods will be updated to include appropriate QC criteria, spiking instructions, and results from the validation study. In addition, any modifications and acknowledgements (e.g., participant laboratories) will be incorporated into each method. After the methods have undergone review and are considered final they will be given EPA numbers and made 508-compliant.

2.5 Implementation

Once methods have demonstrated adequate performance based on results of the study; they will be ready for nationwide implementation, resulting in increased capability and capacity for analysis of *E.coli* and and *Non-typhoidal Salmonella*. For laboratories to implement these methods, they would have to analyze four initial demonstrations of capability samples (IDCs) and meet QC criteria. The contractor as directed by the WAM shall assist with technical assistance necessary for the implementation of the standardized methods.

Task 7: WLA Proficiency Testing Program

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Water Laboratory Alliance (WLA) currently relies on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Laboratory Response Network (LRN) for concentration and analysis of select agents from large volumes (10 - 100 L) of drinking water using the Laboratory Response Network (LRN) Filter Concentration for the Detection of Bioterrorism Threat Agents in Potable Water Samples (Water Processing Protocol). The ultrafiltration (UF) portion of this LRN protocol is capable of concentrating a wide array of pathogens and toxins, including vegetative bacteria, viruses, bacterial spores, parasite (00)cysts, and toxins having a molecular weight above ~30,000 Daltons. In 2006, 28 laboratories participated in a multi-center validation study (MCVS) of the LRN Water Processing Protocol. Of the 28 laboratories, four were approved to use the UF protocol. This small number of approved laboratories would be inadequate to process the volume of water samples that would be generated in the event of an incident.

This effort will be performed by CDC in conjunction with the Laboratory Response Network (LRN) and Water Laboratory Alliance (WLA) to plan, develop, and conduct a multi-laboratory training and performance study to identify laboratories that meet Proficiency Testing (PT) criteria for the LRN Water Processing Protocol. As part of the PT study planning activities, CDC/LRN and EPA will work together to determine the framework for the PT program, including the following issues related to frequency and scheduling options:

- Determine PT frequency for laboratories to maintain proficiency status (e.g., every two years)
- Determine if demonstration of UF proficiency using QC criteria is required along with PT sample testing
- Determine if follow-up PT samples should be provided to laboratories that do not pass during the single PT round incorporated into this project proposal

The contractor shall assist in initial planning meetings to provide historical references and other relevant background knowledge in an effort to correct any previous problems with the ultrafiltration method. In addition the contractor shall provide assistance for CDC BT agent screening protocol (both UF and analytical).

Task 8: Chemical Methods Single and Multi-Laboratory Validation Studies

Published methods do not exist for 13 of the 33 original WSD priority contaminants. Significant accomplishments have been made over the last four years by WSD (single and multiple laboratory validation studies for ion chromatography and completion of the laboratory work for an LC-MS study) and NHSRC (LC-MS-MS single and multi-laboratory studies and GC-MS single and multi laboratory studies). The goal of this task is to identify methods that were successful for WSD contaminants at the single laboratory level and to perform multi-laboratory validation on these same contaminants. The multi-laboratory validation studies will determine ruggedness and establish method performance criteria.

Sub-task 1 Single Lab Validation.

LC-MS Screening Implementation Tool Kit: The contractor shall complete any work related to the LC-MS screening single laboratory validation study which includes seven WSD priority contaminants that do not have drinking water methods and six additional WSD priority contaminants that currently are analyzed by more time consuming methodologies. A relevant Summary Report has been developed under a previous contract. The report will need to undergo multiple reviews from EPA staff (WSD, NHSRC, TSC, and/or NERL) which will likely require multiple revisions. Additional data sources may also need to be added to the report from the Region 5 Laboratory, NERL, WSi water utilities, and/or other sources. The final report will be a guide for laboratories on how to implement LC-MS screening, with a strong emphasis on WSD priority contaminants.

LC-MS-MS Single Laboratory Verification: The EPA Region 5 Laboratory may be tasked with verifying some follow on LC-MS-MS quantitative methodologies, particularly contaminants that have not been tested by any of the NHSRC studies. The contractor will be required to organize and review raw data produced by Region 5, as well as draft reports summarizing the findings. These reports will contain analysis of data, summary tables and graphs, and select chromatograms and mass spectrometer outputs that illustrate points within the report. A follow up deliverable of a method, modification to an already existing method, or guidance document may also be necessary.

The contractor shall be responsible for coordinating the review of all documents mentioned in the above two paragraphs. Reports, methods, modification to already existing method, or guidance documents will most likely undergo review by the EPA TM, other EPA reviewers, and at external peer-reviewers. The contractor shall prepare a written disposition of comments addressing all reviewers' comments and make revisions to both the Summary Reports and EPA Methods and submit final copies to the TM. Only methods with single lab performance data sufficient to support a final EPA Method, EPA Method Modification, or Guidance will be considered for multi-laboratory validation.

Sub-task 2 Multi-laboratory Validation of Chemical Methods.

Potential multi-laboratory studies to occur within the Base period are:

- Multi-laboratory validation of the LC-MS Screening method discussed in the sub-task 1
- Multi-laboratory validation NHSRC method studies for the drinking water matrix, most likely the GC-MS semivolatile organic compound study that contains several WSD priority compounds

The multi-laboratory studies are contingent on the success of the single laboratory study, and other developments in the analysis of WSD priority contaminants.

The EPA TM will validate WSD contaminants from these studies using multi-laboratory validation. For each methodology, the contractor shall prepare a Draft Multi-Laboratory Study Plan and QAPP. The draft Study Plan shall include a review of standard multi-laboratory validation study designs (AOAC, etc.). The TM will review the plan and make comments. The contractor shall incorporate the TM's comments and prepare a Final Multi-Laboratory Study Plan.

The contractor shall solicit voluntary participation for the multi-lab study from at least 25 labs per method. Some labs may participate in more than one study. Participant labs must be certified or accredited in the analytical method (or for a method that uses the same or similar instruments for new methods). The contractor shall secure the voluntary participation from as many labs as possible realizing that there will likely be attrition. The contractor shall obtain all necessary supplies for preparing and shipping samples to the participant labs. The contractor shall prepare an information package with

detailed instructions to participant labs regarding how to prepare samples for analysis, the order of analysis and the submission of data to the EPA TM.

The contractor shall ship samples to the participant lab and serve as a resource for technical assistance throughout the period of the study. The contractor shall review, compile and analyze data according to the Study Plan. The contractor shall prepare a Draft Multi-Laboratory Study Report for each method under study. The report shall contain all raw data and analysis. The TM will review the report and provide comments. The contractor shall coordinate the review of the draft report to include internal EPA expert reviewers. The contractor shall prepare a written disposition of comments and prepare a Final Multi-Laboratory Study Report for each methodology.

Based upon the results of the multi-lab studies, the EPA TM, in consultation with the contractor, shall determine which methods yielded acceptable method performance. The contractor shall prepare draft and final EPA Methods (or guidance documents for less prescriptive methods such as LC-MS screening) for EPA decision making that include both single-lab and multi-lab validation data.

Sub-task 3 Accessing WLA Analytical Standards

The objective of this subtask is to provide selected members of the WLA with access to analytical standards for contaminants that are not widely available, but are considered likely contaminants for an intentional drinking water contamination event. Ideally kits representing this objective will contain standards for about 50 to 100 contaminants - each in small (roughly 5 mL) amber vials at a concentration of approximately 100 to 1,000 ppm. The concentration would need to be precisely measured to at least three significant digits. These kits will be contained in hard cases with foam liners, which can either be stored in a freezer of refrigerator.

The contractor will research and compile a list containing hard to obtain WSD priority contaminants, WCIT contaminants, SAM contaminants, and other DHS contaminants. This list will be reviewed and approved by the EPA TM and other EPA staff. The contractor will then generate cost estimates based upon the cost of the pure materials and necessary containers. The contactor will competitively bid the laboratory services for diluting neat standards of the contaminants and assembling the kits, and coordinate the laboratory processes involved to ensure specifications conform to the technical direction received from the EPA TM.

Once the kits are assembled, the contractor will distribute them in accordance with technical direction from the EPA.

Task 9: Data Exchange and Management

The objective of this task is to support the modification of existing electronic data review, and management tools to support and expedite delivery of reviewed data in support of the WLA and assist in the development of common reporting formats. The contractor shall analyze, evaluate, modify, purchase or enhance tools and documents for the electronic delivery of data. Examples include SEDD tools, technical requirements for electronic deliverables, and evaluation and modification of these requirements and tools for up to (10) methods (chemical, radiochemical and/or microbiological).

The contactors shall always identify the most economical and technically effective approach to perform the required enhancement for these EPA applications. This will include evaluation and enhancement of any EPA applications and Electronic Data Deliverable (SEDD) stages for future integration with other State or Federal systems. This may also involve evaluation, enhancement, and testing of additional

functionality, extended modules, and/or supporting features (including updating technical requirements and tools to meet additional extensible markup language (XML) standards (e.g., Schemas and Style Sheets, and tools to evaluate and parse SEDD files into EPA systems) which will be performed under CMMI Level 3 specification.

The contractor will modify existing XML tools to parse data from the SEDD XML format into other XML formats (e.g. New England Region e-DWR format) as well as other XML formats into SEDD. The contractor will modify existing EPA electronic data review tools to check SEDD files and produce electronic files containing reviewed results. The contractor will identify requirements for Laboratory Management Information Systems for input of project analytical information and production of SEDD files.

The contractor will provide support for up to 30 State Laboratories to produce a common electronic spreadsheet based on SEDD data elements or compliant SEDD Stage 2a files for data exchange purpose from their LIMS systems. The contractor will provide training for and support implementation of Web-EDR and the production of associated electronic data deliverables if necessary.

The contractor will continue efforts to produce guidance documentation for review of biological data. This task will require coordination of additional EPA reviews, response to comments, and further revisions and additions to the document currently titled *Microbiological Data Verification and Validation Stages and Checks: Description, Order, and Labeling of Validated Laboratory Analytical Data Packages*.

V. SCHEDULE/DELIVERABLES:

TASK 0 Workplan, Progress Evaluation, and Monthly progress Reports	DATE DUE
A. Workplan	20 business days from receipt of the work assignment
B. QA Supplemental Report, if necessary	20 business days from receipt of the work assignment
C. Monthly progress reports and Financial Reports	Shall be submitted monthly throughout the period of performance to both the Work Assignment Manager (WAM), Alternate and Task mangers (TM)
TASK 1 WLA Support (Communication and Outreach)	DATE DUE
A. Providing biological, chemical and Information Technology technical expertise.	To be assigned through written technical direction as needed
B. Generation of Memorandum of Agreements and/or Memorandums of Understanding.	To be assigned through written technical direction as needed
C. Development of a communication plan and listserv for targeted outreach to the Emergency Responder and Water sector.	To be assigned through written technical direction as needed

D. Providing support for technical conferences and meetings. Examples include the composition of abstracts (estimated 15), presentations (estimated 25), scientific papers (estimated 7) and speeches (limit 2).	To be assigned through written technical direction as needed
E. Development, procurement and distribution (up to 500 organizations) of WLA fact sheets (limit 8), brochures (limit 8) and other communication documents.	To be assigned through written technical direction as needed
F. Revising the WLA web-page at least 4 times per year. Revisions are defined as inserting and removing links and reformatting the information when necessary.	To be assigned through written technical direction as needed
G. Target and recruit laboratory participation in the WLA to ensure adequate capacity for all analytes on the WSD priority contaminant list	To be assigned through written technical direction as needed
TASK 2 WLA Operational and Policy Documents	DATE DUE
A. General guidelines for participating within the WLA	To be assigned through written technical direction
B. Operational procedures for activating the WLA within the ERLN	To be assigned through written technical direction
C. WLA proficiency testing program	To be assigned through written technical direction
D. Management tools and or documents that will be used to track communications and record interactions with laboratories and utilities that join the WLA (using the Water Laboratory Compendium).	To be assigned through written technical direction
TASK 3 WLA Summit	DATE DUE
A. Finalize all follow up documentation related and actions as necessary related to the WLA San Fran Summit	To be assigned through written technical direction
B. Develop and distribute communication materials that promote the WLA.	To be assigned through written technical direction
C. Organize and manage the creation and execution of the WLA Summit.	To be assigned through written technical direction
TASK 4 WLA Response Plan and Intra-Regional Functional Exercise	DATE DUE
A. Work with HQ EPA, Regions 9 and 10, and their respective State, and major utility Laboratory Managers to conduct an inter-regional full scale exercise using the WLA Response Plan.	To be assigned through written technical direction
B. Develop, plan, and conduct an additional exercises with up to 5 EPA Regions based on the full scale exercise conducted in Regions 1 and 2.	To be assigned through written technical direction
C. Develop documents that summarize commonalties and lessons learned from the inter-regional full scale exercises.	To be assigned through written technical direction

D. Revise the WLA National Plan as necessary.	November 30, 2010 or as assigned through written technical direction	
E. Work with selected states (up to 10) to test electronic exchange of data.	To be assigned through written technical direction	
TASK 5 Training for State Laboratories and Water Utilities	DATE DUE	
 A. Develop webcasts in support of the Water Laboratory Alliance Training Center. The following Webcasts are to be developed: WLA Program Overview for WLA Members- Power point presentation only WLA Program Overview for Non-WLA Members- Power point presentation only WLA-RP Tabletop Exercise- Technical Webcast Handling of Criminal Investigation Samples- Technical Webcast 	 Webcast Outline: TBD Webcast Design Plan: TBD Completed Four Webcasts December 30, 20100 	
B. Develop an on-line training module on the Water Laboratory Alliance Response Plan (WLA-PR). The module will provide an overview of the WLA-RP, including the following: • Sample shipping and receipt • Communications and coordination • Sample analysis • Data review • Data reporting In addition to providing users with an over view of the WLA-RP the module should be interactive. CSC will follow the approved training proposal on the WLA-RP on-line module (included at the end of the TD) when designing this course.	1. Module Outline: TBD 2. Module Story Plan: TBD 3. Module Beta Test Version: TBD 4. Completed Module: TBI	
TASK 6 Biological Method Standardization	DATE DUE	

Prepare necessary paperwork and formatting for production of an EPA/WSD Method for the endospore method TSC validated and EPA	Due dates will be announced in advance by the WAM
used in this QC criteria development study	
Subtask 2. Non-select Agent Method Standardization	
A. The contractor shall adapt existing CDC (culture) and FDA (molecular) methods for <i>E. coli</i> O157:H7 and Non-Typhoid Salmonella among others to standardize them using the Environmental Monitoring Methods Council (EMMC) format	Ongoing. Due dates will be announced in advance by the WAM
B. Non-Typhoidal Salmonella (and <i>E. coli</i> 157:H7)	Ongoing. Due dates will be announced in advance by the WAM
Multiple Inter-laboratory Validation Study Design and Development of Study Plan	
Develop study instructions for practice analyses	December 30, , 2010
Develop study-specific spiking protocol	December 30, 2010
Develop data reporting forms for practice analyses	December 30, 2010 December 30, , 2010
Coordinate practice laboratory analyses	December 30, 2010
Develop data review forms	
 Develop results spreadsheet 	
Review practice data	
C. Study Coordination (Phase I Study Analyses: Holding Time Assessment/ Non-Typhoidal Salmonella & E. coli O157:H7)	Non-Typhoid Salmonella to be assigned through written technical direction
Develop study instructions for Phase I validation study analyses	
Develop data reporting forms for Phase I validation study analyses	
Coordinate Phase I analyses	
Review and validate Phase I validation study data	
 Follow-up with laboratories regarding any data validation or other issues; collaborate with EPA to determine path forward 	
Phase II Study Analyses: Reproducibility Assessment	Non-Typhoidal Salmonella due to be assigned through written technical
 Identify laboratories to collect samples for the Phase II reproducibility analyses 	direction
 Develop sample receipt schedule for Phase II reproducibility analyses 	
• Provide sample collection supplies (e.g., coolers, cubitainers,	

bottles) to laboratories	
Develop sample collection and shipping instructions	
Develop study instructions for Phase II reproducibility analyses	
Develop data reporting forms for Phase II reproducibility analyses	
Coordinate Phase II analyses	
Review and validate reproducibility data	
Follow-up with laboratories regarding any data validation or other issues; collaborate with EPA to determine path forward	
D. Data Review, Data Analysis, and Development of Validation Study Report	Non-Typhoidal Salmonella to be assigned through written technical direction e
Assess method performance and develop QC acceptance criteria	
Develop draft study report	
 Revise Non-Typhoidal Salmonella Standard Analytical Protocol (SAP) based on multi-laboratory validation study, including laboratory comments 	
Revise study report based on EPA comments	
Revise SAP based on EPA comments	
Task 7	
UF Confidence Testing Round	DATE DUE
Assist with planning and technical support as necessary	Ongoing. Due dates will be announced in advance by the WAM
TASK 8 Chemical Method Development	DATE DUE
A. Provide detailed <i>Summary Report</i> and <i>EPA Method</i> for each single-laboratory validated method	To be assigned through written technical direction
B. Coordinate review of the <i>Summary Report</i> and provide written	To be assigned through written
disposition of comments	technical direction
C. Develop a <i>Draft Multi-Laboratory Study plan</i> and <i>QAPP</i> for each methodology in the multi-laboratory validation study	To be assigned through written technical direction
D. Prepare a <i>Final Multi-Laboratory Study Plan</i> based on the TM's	To be assigned through written
comments	technical direction
E. Identify qualified laboratories to participate in the multi-laboratory	To be assigned through written
validation study	technical direction

F. Ship all necessary supplies and provide all necessary information to	To be assigned through written
participant laboratories	technical direction
G. Review, analyze and compile all data from each method into a <i>Draft</i>	To be assigned through written
Multi-Laboratory Validation Study Plan	technical direction
H. Coordinate review of the <i>Draft Multi-Laboratory Validation Study</i>	To be assigned through written
Plan and provide written disposition of comments	technical direction
I. Prepare a Final Multi-Laboratory Study Report for each method	To be assigned through written
	technical direction
J. Provide list of contaminants to be included with the kit of standards for	To be assigned through written
WLA laboratories. Revisions, if necessary will be scheduled with the EPA	technical direction
TM.	
K. Provide an estimate for production of the kits of standards once the	To be assigned through written
contaminant list is finalized.	technical direction
L. Deliver kits of standards to selected WLA laboratories	To be assigned through written
	. 1 . 1 1
	technical direction
TASK 9	technical direction
TASK 9 Data Management	DATE DUE
Data Management	DATE DUE
Data Management A. Enhancement and Modification of Reporting Requirements and	DATE DUE To be assigned through written
Data Management	DATE DUE
A. Enhancement and Modification of Reporting Requirements and Electronic Data Review and Management Tools	DATE DUE To be assigned through written technical direction
A. Enhancement and Modification of Reporting Requirements and	DATE DUE To be assigned through written
A. Enhancement and Modification of Reporting Requirements and Electronic Data Review and Management Tools	To be assigned through written technical direction To be assigned through written
A. Enhancement and Modification of Reporting Requirements and Electronic Data Review and Management Tools B. Creation of Stylesheets from XML files	DATE DUE To be assigned through written technical direction To be assigned through written technical direction
A. Enhancement and Modification of Reporting Requirements and Electronic Data Review and Management Tools B. Creation of Stylesheets from XML files C. Provide the data management team with routine updates pertaining to	To be assigned through written technical direction To be assigned through written technical direction To be assigned through written technical direction
A. Enhancement and Modification of Reporting Requirements and Electronic Data Review and Management Tools B. Creation of Stylesheets from XML files C. Provide the data management team with routine updates pertaining to all tasks in this work assignment	DATE DUE To be assigned through written technical direction To be assigned through written technical direction To be assigned through written technical direction
A. Enhancement and Modification of Reporting Requirements and Electronic Data Review and Management Tools B. Creation of Stylesheets from XML files C. Provide the data management team with routine updates pertaining to all tasks in this work assignment D. Provide support to state laboratories to create electronic files	To be assigned through written technical direction To be assigned through written

VI. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:

- (1) In the monthly progress report, the contractor shall report the cumulative amount expended to date (LOE and dollars) on the HSPD-9 project. In addition, the contractor shall report, per individual task area, LOE and dollars expended during the reporting period. The contractor shall provide one copy of the report to the WAM and all technical points of contact.
- (2) The contractor shall notify the WAM and Contracting Officer when 75% of the labor hours have been expended.
- (3) All travel must be authorized, in writing, by the Project Officer.
- (4) The TM will provide exact travel dates, location, number of travelers, etc. via written technical direction prior to each trip. For estimating purposes, the contractor shall include in the revised cost estimate 11 trips (see below). The contractor shall use the destination of Atlanta, GA (two days/one night) for trips identified as "TBD".

The contractor's personnel shall always identify themselves as a contractor whenever their EPA work brings them in contact with the public.

Would it be helpful to reference which task the following trips are associated with? Anticipated Travel

- January Location TBD (1 personnel)
- February GA, Location TBD (2 persons)
- March Location TBD (1 personnel)
- May –Water Laboratory Alliance Summit, Location TBD (26 personnel)
- June WLA Forum, Location TBD (2 personnel)
- July Regional Full Scale Exercise, Location TBD (6 personnel)

VII. GREEN MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES

The contractor shall follow the provision of EPA prescription 1523.703-1, Acquisition of environmentally preferable meeting and conference services (May 2007), for the use of off-site commercial facilities for an EPA event, whether the event is a meeting, conference, training session, or other purpose. Environmental preferability is defined at FAR 2.101, and shall be used when soliciting quotes or offers for meeting/conference services on behalf of the Agency.

Attachment I

QUALITY ASSURANCE SURVEILLANCE PLAN For the Water Security Division's Technical, Analytical, and Regulatory Mission Support Performance Work Statement

The requirements contained in this work assignment are considered performance-based, focusing on the Agency's desired results and outcomes. The contractor shall be responsible for determining the most effective means by which these requirements will be fulfilled. In order to fulfill the requirements, the contractor shall design innovative processes and systems that can deliver the required services in a manner that will best meet the Agency's performance objectives. This performance-based requirement represents a challenge to the contractor to develop and apply innovative and efficient approaches for achieving results and meeting or exceeding the performance objectives, measures, and standards described below. The Contractor's performance will be reflected in the positive or negative evaluation offered by the Agency in the Past Performance Evaluation (PPE) which is evaluated annually (per the "Past Performance Evaluation" clause in the contract). The Work Assignment Manager shall submit a complete annual review of the areas outlined in the Quality Assurance Surveillance Plan (QASP), included in the contract, which will then be utilized by the Project Officer in preparing the overall evaluations submitted annually in response to the Past Performance Evaluation requirements in the contract.

General Management and Administration						
Performance Requirement	Measurable Performance Standards	Surveillance Methods	Incentives/ Disincentives			
Management and Communications: The Contractor shall maintain contact with the EPA CO, PO and WAM throughout the performance of the contract and shall immediately bring potential problems to the attention of the appropriate EPA WAM. In cases where issues have a direct impact on project schedules and cost, the contractor shall provide options for EPA's consideration on resolving or mitigating the impacts.	Any issues that impact project schedules and cost shall be brought to the attention of the appropriate EPA WAM within 3 business days of occurrence.	100% of active work assignments under the contract will be reviewed by the EPA WAM monthly (via monthly progress report) to identify unreported issues. The EPA WAM will report any issues to the EPA PO who will bring the issue(s) to the Contractor's attention through the CO.	Unsatisfactory rating under the category of Business Relations in the NIH Performance Evaluation System if two or more incidents occur when the contractor does not meet the measurable performance standards for a given contract period.			

General Management and Administration						
Performance Requirement	Measurable Performance Standards	Surveillance Methods	Incentives/ Disincentives			
Timeliness: Services and deliverables shall be in accordance with schedules stated in each work assignment or tasking document, unless amended or modified by an approved EPA action.	Annually, 90% of all submitted deliverables shall be submitted no later than 6 business days past the due date.	100% of active work assignments under the contract will be reviewed by the EPA WAM monthly (via monthly progress report & milestones established for each deliverable) to compare actual delivery dates against those approved. The EPA WAM will report any issues to the EPA PO who will bring the issue(s) to the Contractor's attention through the CO.	Unsatisfactory rating under the category of Timeliness in the NIH Performance Evaluation System when the contractor does not meet the measurable performance standards.			
Cost Management and Control: The Contractor shall monitor, track and accurately report level of effort, labor cost, other direct cost and fee expenditures to EPA through progress reports and approved special reporting requirements. The Contractor shall assign appropriately leveled and skilled personnel to all tasks, practice and encourage time management, and ensure accurate and appropriate time keeping.	The contractor shall manage costs to the level of approved ceiling on the work assignment. The contractor shall notify the WAM/PO when 75% of the approved funding ceiling for the work assignment is reached.	The EPA PO will routinely meet with the Contractor's Project Manager to discuss the work progress and contract and individual work assignment expenditures. The EPA PO shall review the Contractor's monthly progress reports and request the WAMs verification of expenditures and technical progress before authorizing invoice payments.	Unsatisfactory rating under the category of Cost Control in the NIH Performance Evaluation System when the contractor does not meet the measurable performance standards.			

General Management and Administration						
Performance Measurable Requirement Performance Standards		Surveillance Methods	Incentives/ Disincentives			
Technical Analyses: The analyses or products developed by the contractor shall be factual and defensible and based on sound science and engineering. All data shall be collected from reputable sources and quality assurance measures shall be conducted in accordance with agency requirements and any additional requirements outlined in individual work assignments or technical directives. Any work requiring the contractor provide options or recommendations shall include the rationale used in selecting the option/recommendation and all other options considered.	All analyses conducted for EPA by the Contractor must be factual and based on sound science and engineering. All analyses and products (initial and final drafts) shall conform in format and content to requirements specified by the WAM in written technical direction, and should meet the objectives stated in the work assignment. All initial draft documents shall be clearly written at a level appropriate to the targeted audience. All information shall be factual, technically sound, and accurate, with data sources identified. Draft versions of a document shall require no more than two editorial revisions.	EPA will review all analyses conducted by the Contractor and will independently consider their merit. EPA may opt to peer review analyses to further validate merit. The EPA WAM/TM will review initial drafts to assess technical accuracy and editorial quality. The WAM/TM will identify all inaccuracies and needed edits and corrections to the contractor in the initial review of draft documents.	Unsatisfactory rating under the category of QUALITY OF PRODUCT OR SERVICE in the NIH Performance Evaluation System when the contractor does not meet the measurable performance standards. In addition, the Government may withhold fee payments associated with that segment of the work.			

General Management and Administration						
Performance Requirement	Measurable Performance Standards	Surveillance Methods	Incentives/ Disincentives			
Socio-Economic Utilization: The Contractor shall assess all agency requirements outlined in work assignments for opportunities to fully utilize the knowledge and experience of its socio- economic team members. Work shall be allocated in a manner that ensures the Contractor's annual subcontracting goals are met.	The Contractor shall meet a standard of at least 80% of the dollar goals outlined in their subcontracting plan annually.	EPA will monitor the contractor's utilization of socio-economic firms by reviewing the contractor's submittal of Standard Forms (SF) 294 and (SF) 295.	If less than 80% is reached, the contractor shall outline the steps that will be taken to meet the annual goals outlined in their plan. Performance that does not meet the stated goals without sufficient justification will be reported as an Unsatisfactory rating under the category of BUSINESS RELATIONS, and MEETING SDB SUBCONTRACTIN G REQUIREMENTS in the NIH Performance Evaluation System.			

	United States Environmental Protection Agency Washington, DC 20460			Work Assignment Number			
EPA				0-13			
EPA	Work As	ssignment			Other	X Amendm	nent Number:
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Contract Number	Contract Period 11/	30/2010 To	07/31/	2011	Title of Work Assigni	ment/SF Site Nam	
EP-C-10-060	Base X	Option Period Nur			ū		
Contractor		-	Section and pa	ragraph of Con	tract SOW		
COMPUTER SCIENCES CORPOR	ATION				_		
Purpose: Work Assignment		Work Assignment C	Close-Out		Period of Performance		
X Work Assignment Ame	endment	Incremental Funding	g				
Work Plan Approval					From 12/02/	2010 To 07	/31/2011
Comments:							
The purpose of this amendment 0001 - Funding for Base Pd	is to correct the L	ine Item numbe	ering in E	AS as foll	.ows:		
0001N/A - Labor Hours							
Superfund	Acco	ounting and Approp	priations Data	a		X	Non-Superfund
SFO SFO	Note: To report additional ac	counting and appropri	ations date use	EPA Form 1900	D-69A.		
(Max 2)							
⊕ DCN Budget/FY Approp ☐ (Max 6) (Max 4) Code (N		Program Element	Object Class	Amount (Do	ollars) (Cents)	Site/Project	Cost Org/Code
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Work Assignment Manager Name Latish				Bran	nch/Mail Code:		
The state of the s	.a mapp					564-1390	
(Signature)		(Date))		FAX Number:		
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L. L			ne Number: 513-	569-7864			
				FAX Number:			
Other Agency Official Name				Bran	nch/Mail Code:		
				Pho	ne Number:		
(Signature)		(Date))		Number:		
Contracting Official Name Cathy Basi	u	. ,			nch/Mail Code:		
						-487-2042	
(Signature)		(Date))		Number:		

EDA	United States Environmental Protection Agency Washington, DC 20460				Work Assignment Number 0-13			
EPA	Work Assignment			Other	X Amend	ment Number:		
Work Assignment						0000		
Contract Number Contract Period 11/30/2010 To 07/31/2011					Tidle of Monte Anni			
ED C 10 000					Title of Work Assignment/SF Site Name			
base X Opion Feriod Number Watter hab Alliance								
Contractor Specify Section and paragraph of Contract SOW COMPUTER SCIENCES CORPORATION 2.7, 2.8, 2.15, 3.1.4, 3.1.9, 3.1.13, 3.1.14								
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Work Assignment Work Assignment Close-Out					rend of renormance			
					10/00/0010 7 07/01/0011			
Work Plan Approval					From 12/02/2010 To 07/31/2011			
Comments: This action decreases the funded ceiling by \$100,000 and results in ceilings as follows: Cost ceiling = \$610,000; LOE ceiling 5100 LOE.								
Superfund Accounting and Appropriations Data						Х	Non-Superfund	
Note: To report additional accounting and appropriations date use EPA Form 1900-69A.								
SFO (Max 2)								
	ppriation Budget Org/Code (Max 6) (Max 7)	Program Element (Max 9)	Object Class (Max 4)	Amount (De	ollars) (Cents) Site/Project (Max 8)	Cost Org/Code (Max 7)	
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Authorized Work Assignment Ceiling								
5					LOE: 16,855			
11/30/2010 To 07/31/2011								
This Action:					0			
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Total: 16,855								
Work Plan / Cost Estimate Approvals								
ntractor WP Dated: Cost/Fee:					LOE:			
Cumulative Approved: Cost/Fee:					LOE:			
Work Assignment Manager Name Latisha Mapp					Branch/Mail Code:			
					Phone Number 202-564-1390			
(Signature) (Date)				— FAX	FAX Number:			
Project Officer Name Nancy Muzzy				Bran	Branch/Mail Code:			
					Phone Number: 513-569-7864			
(Signature) (Date)					FAX Number:			
Other Agency Official Name					Branch/Mail Code:			
					Phone Number:			
					AX Number:			
Contracting Official Name Cathy Basu					Branch/Mail Code:			
					Phone Number: 513-487-2042			
(Signature) (Date)					Number:	_ 10, 2012		